

## Notice.

### THE NURSING EXHIBITION.

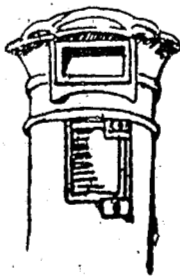
THE Secretary of the Nursing Exhibition, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W., will be obliged if all those who are dressing dolls in Hospital uniforms will let her have a post card to that effect as soon as possible, stating the Hospital the Nursing uniform of which they are copying. *This is important.*

Suitable dolls can be obtained by application to Miss Harcourt, Doll Department, Messrs. D. H. Evans and Co., Oxford Street, London.

Composition dolls, 14 in., 1s. 6½d.; 15 in., 1s. 11½d. Jointed dolls., 15 in., 2s. 11½d.; 16½ in., 3s. 11½d.

The Secretary will be obliged if photographs, badges, certificates, &c., kindly promised, can be sent in by the 15th of May.

The Secretary would be pleased to hear from those Nurses who would like to act as Stewards, to help to explain the interesting exhibits to visitors, &c.



## Letters to the Editor.

Notes, Queries, &c.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

### SELF-RELIANCE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I fear it is impossible to deny the fact—from much printed evidence—that the system of practical teaching in American Training Schools for Nurses, is leaving us far in the rear. I am quite aware, having travelled much in the States, that we British women still have the advantage over our transatlantic neighbours in physical strength and earnestness of purpose, but unless we have the courage to emulate their self-reliance, which demands the utilisation of our mental force, our natural brute force will avail us nothing in the future. The best Nursing is essentially the result of mental and not physical strength, and the most successful Nurses are those whose will-force, combined with practical knowledge, acquired on a scientific basis, compels the confidence of the patient. That there is something wrong in the system of training our Nurses is acknowledged by all thinking, conscientious, and liberal-minded women. The characteristic defects of the Trained Nurse as a class are so apparent to the most casual women of the world, that surely the time has come when it is the duty of

Hospital Matrons to consider the subject, and evoke a system of training which will produce a body of women possessing self-reliance, instead of a body of women who appear totally devoid of dependence on their own judgment, and to move and have their being in "droves" according to the policy of the officials of the various Schools in which they are trained. I am a mere lay woman, but am deeply interested in the work and position of working women, and I am appalled by the disclosures in the RECORD, concerning the lack of courage to be found in Trained Nurses. I do not blame them as a rule, knowing full well how difficult it is for a woman to earn her bread and maintain her independence, but surely the virtues of honour, gratitude, and self-respect have not sunk so low in the Nursing market as the pitiable sum of two guineas a week! To an outsider the revelations concerning the new private Nurses' Institution, and the over-riding of the governing body of the Royal British Nurses' Association, by packing the Council from one or two Hospitals seem nothing short of disgraceful; to a woman in touch with the outer world it seems impossible that the majority of Nurses will permit such great injustice to take place without appealing to public opinion, both by holding indignation meetings, and by appealing to the justice of the British Press.

Yours, &c.,  
E. G.

London.

### TOYNBEE HALL NURSING GUILD.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—In reference to a paragraph in the NURSING RECORD of the 4th inst., re the help it is suggested that members of the Toynbee Hall Nursing Guild should give to the sick poor, allow me to suggest that such aid does not supersede Trained Nursing, but substitutes the help of an educated woman who has been taught to do certain simple things for that of the oldest child at home or the woman next door. Having someone who appreciates cleanliness and realises the advantage of fresh air and antiseptics may make a wide difference in the comfort and even in the chance of recovery of the sick person.

I am, yours faithfully,  
J. DUNN.

Mile End, E.

### RÖNTGEN'S RAYS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—Seeing that this now famous style of photography is becoming so universal in medicine and surgery, it has occurred to me to write and ask you whether you think it would be worth the while of Nurses to familiarise themselves in the process. I am a Nurse in private practice, and the surgeon for whom I chiefly work always gets me to do the "testing" involved in his practice. I also take all the notes of his cases, and help him very much in many professional branches of his work. In these ways Nurses are veritably the "helpmeets" of medical practitioners, and take up the position which it is right and proper

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